

Biography

CAPTAIN SENSIBLE



CAPTAIN SENSIBLE, now there's a name to conjure with. And that image, the red beret, the shades, the odd socks. Who is he? What's he all about? Why does he seem to deliberately pursue the "uncool" areas of "Rock" with a wild and infectious enthusiasm? This was my quest when I travelled into deepest suburbia via British Rail. Yes, Croydon was my destination.

"Allo there" said the tall, bleach blonde chap who opened the door. I had arrived. "Sorry about the state of the room, er, I've been practising!" That was fairly obvious, as the walls of the tiny flat were lined with seven foot high speaker cabinets and the floors littered with expensive Gibson guitars. I assumed that there was a bed somewhere in the room, but it was temporarily hidden.

"Why the name, Cap?" I splattered trying to swallow the tealeaves which he had just brewed up.

"Well, we all changed our names during the punk thing, Sid Vicious, Rat Scabies, Captain Sensible. I dunno, I'm not all that sensible, and I'd never have been awarded the title Captain unless I did it myself! Also Ray Burns is remarkably boring", that makes sense, but where did it all start, this musical career, that seven or eight years can only be described as extraordinary.

"I first became aware of music when walking to school listening to Tony Blackburn and he played 'See Emily Play' by Pink Floyd featuring Syd. All of a sudden the world makes sense and I made a subconscious decision to flood my brain with lots of this wild pop music. I bought an old Spanish guitar and did the usual posing in front of the mirror stuff while strumming chords that Bert Weedon certainly wouldn't have recommended. I formed a band with a school mate who we dubbed Johnny Moped and we waited for success to amble along. It didn't, so I was forced to get a job after being booted out of school for refusing to go to maths lessons, (mental torture it was!)".